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O F T H E

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

A N D

SENIOR SANITARY INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1939.

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.,
Medical Officer of Health.

J. V. WALKER, M.D., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.
Deputy Medical Officer of Health.

E. YOUNG, A.R.S.I., F.S.I.A.,
Senior Sanitary Inspector.

October 1940.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Bacteriologist :-

W. J. BANNISTER, M.D., B.Ch., B.A.O., D.P.H.

Deputy Medical Officer of Health and Deputy School Medical Officer :-

J. V. WALKER, M.D., B.Ch., M.R.C.P., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector :-

E. YOUNG, Assoc.R.S.I., F.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.I.

Sanitary Inspectors :-

T. L. MARTIN, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.I.

F. BROWN, Assoc. R.S.I., M.S.I.A., Cert. Meat Inspector R.S.A. of Scotland.

Health Visitors :-

MISS G. CLARK, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS W. CARPENTER, S.R.N., S.C.M.

* MISS D. GRIFFITHS, S.R.N., S.C.M.

MISS R. HOWELLS, S.R.N. (Resigned 18th November 1939)

* Health Visitors Certificate, R.S.I.

Clerks :-

J. S. ROBERTSON

R. M. IMPETT.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE.

1939 - 1940.

Chairman - Councillor T.H.Prestedge, C.C.

Vice-Chairman - Councillor W. Hawkins

His Worship the Mayor
(Alderman A.B.C.Kempe, J.P.)
Alderman H. Stead

Councillor S.E.Austin

Councillor Mrs F.L.Dunn, J.P.

Councillor J. Martin

Councillor T.W.Mockridge

Councillor Mrs H.L.Nicholson

Councillor A.E.Petley

MEMBERS OF THE MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE STANDING SUB-COMMITTEE.

Chairman - Councillor Mrs F.L.Dunn, J.P.

His Worship the Mayor
(Alderman A.B.C.Kempe, J.P.)
Councillor W. Hawkins

Councillor J. Martin

Councillor Mrs H.L.Nicholson

Councillor A.E.Petley

Councillor T.H.Prestedge, C.C.

Mrs Deveson

Mrs Horsley

Mrs Lampert.

To His Worship the Mayor, the Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Ramsgate.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I beg to submit the Annual Report for the year 1939 prepared in accordance with instructions issued by the Ministry of Health. The report has been curtailed to a large extent due to war conditions and on the recommendation of the Ministry.

The resident population of the Borough at mid-year 1939 as estimated by the Registrar General is given as 34,470 which is 80 greater than that for 1938.

The incidence of infectious disease still remains low, especially when one considers the large floating population in Ramsgate during the summer months of the year. Particulars of the number of cases notified for the whole year will be found in Tables in the body of the Report.

The Death Rate for the year was 11.6 per 1,000 of population after adjustment and the Birth Rate was 15.3 per 1,000 of population. These rates show an increase of 0.5 and an increase of 2.4 respectively as compared with the rates for the previous year.

The Report does not contain in detail all the work carried out by the Department and is in the nature of an interim report. It is recommended that on the cessation of hostilities, a report showing in detail all the statistical facts and information concerning public health matters should be compiled.

It is regretful to report the resignation of Dr. W.J.Bannister on 30th June 1940 due to ill-health, whose pleasure it would have been to compile this report, and my thanks are due to him and to the members of the various Committees for the helpful support given to my staff and myself.

I am,
Mr.Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,
Your obedient Servant,

J. V. WALKER,

Medical Officer of Health.

Public Health Department,
Clarendon House School,
Ramsgate.

October 1940.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of the Borough in acres	-	4,778
Population - Census 1931	-	33,603
Registrar General's estimate of -		
(a) Resident population, mid-year 1939	-	34,470
(b) Average population appropriate to the calculation of death rates	-	34,040
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1939) according to Rate Books	-	9,500
Rateable Value	-	£ 259,555
Sum represented by a penny rate	-	£990
Rainfall	-	35.677 inches
Sunshine	-	1767.3 hours.

EXTRACTS FROM VITAL STATISTICS.

	Total.	Male.	Female.	
Live Births -				
Legitimate	492	248	244	Birth Rate 15.3
Illegitimate	35	24	11	
Stillbirths -				
Legitimate	13	10	3	Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births 15.6
Illegitimate	-	-	-	
Deaths	465	209	256	Death Rate - 11.6 (corrected)
Deaths from puerperal causes -				Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) births.
Puerperal sepsis -		Nil.		Nil
Other puerperal causes -		1		0.01

Death Rate of Infants under one year of age :-

All infants per 1,000 live births	-	37.9
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	-	40.6
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-	Nil.

Deaths from Cancer (all ages)	-	70
" " Measles "	-	Nil
" " Whooping Cough (all ages)	-	1.
" " Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age)	-	1.

The following Table has been drawn up to render possible a comparison as regards Vital Statistics for 1939 between England and Wales as a whole and Ramsgate.

	England and Wales.	126 C.Bs and Great Towns including London.	148 smaller Towns. Res.Pop 25000 - 50,000.	London Adm. County.	RAMSGATE.
	Rates per 1,000 of Population.				
Live Births	15.0	14.8	15.6	12.3	15.3
Still "	0.59	0.59	0.57	0.44	0.37
Deaths :-					
All causes	12.1	12.0	11.2	11.9	11.6
Typhoid and Paratyphoid	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Smallpox	-	-	-	-	0.00
Measles	0.01	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
Scarlet Fever	0.01	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Whooping Cough	0.03	0.03	0.02	0.03	0.02
Diphtheria	0.05	0.05	0.04	0.02	0.02
Influenza	0.21	0.19	0.20	0.18	0.26
Notifications :-					
Smallpox	0.00	-	-	-	0.00
Scarlet Fever	1.89	1.96	1.78	1.53	0.99
Diphtheria	1.14	1.21	1.16	0.98	0.61
Enteric	0.04	0.03	0.04	0.03	0.02
Erysipelas	0.34	0.40	0.31	0.37	0.32
Pneumonia	1.02	1.21	0.89	0.99	0.96
	Rates per 1,000 Live Births.				
Deaths under 1 year of age	50	53	40	48	37.9
Deaths from Diarrhoea and Enteritis under 2 years of age	4.6	6.3	3.0	8.2	1.9
Maternal Mortality :-					
Puerperal Sepsis	0.77)	Not available.			0.00
Others	2.16)				1.9
Total	2.93)				1.9
	Rates per 1,000 Total Births (Live and Still).				
Maternal Mortality :-					
Puerperal sepsis	0.74)	Not available.			0.00
Others	2.08)				1.8
Total	2.82)				1.8
Notifications :-					
Puerperal Fever)	14.35	17.26	12.99	3.31	-
" Pyrexia)				14.22	7.4

MORTALITY TABLE.

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
1. Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fever	-	-	-
2. Measles	-	-	-
3. Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
4. Whooping Cough	-	1	1
5. Diphtheria	1	-	1
6. Influenza	4	5	9
7. Encephalitis Lethargica	-	-	-
8. Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-
9. Tuberculosis of respiratory system	13	7	20
10. Other Tuberculous diseases	1	-	1
11. Syphilis	2	-	2
12. General paralysis of insane, tabes etc.	-	-	-
13. Cancer	31	39	70
14. Diabetes	3	7	10
15. Cerebral haemorrhage etc.	11	22	33
16. Heart disease	41	63	104
17. Aneurysm	-	-	-
18. Other circulatory diseases	8	12	20
19. Bronchitis	9	19	28
20. Pneumonia (all forms)	5	7	12
21. Other respiratory diseases	3	4	7
22. Peptic ulcer	3	3	6
23. Diarrhoea under 2 years	1	-	1
24. Appendicitis	3	1	4
25. Cirrhosis of liver	-	2	2
26. Other liver diseases	-	3	3
27. Other digestive diseases	5	3	8
28. Acute and chronic nephritis	5	5	10
29. Puerperal sepsis	-	-	-
30. Other puerperal diseases	-	1	1
31. Congenital debility, premature birth	7	6	13
32. Senility	17	19	36
33 .Suicide	4	2	6
34. Other violence	13	8	21
35. Other defined diseases	18	17	35
36. Ill defined or not known	1	-	1
Totals	209	256	465

INFANT MORTALITY TABLE.

Cause.	Age in weeks. Under 1.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4	Total under 1 mth.	Age in months. 1-3.	3-6.	6-9.	9-12.	T a
Prematurity	9	-	-	-	9	-	-	-	-	
Cong.Debility, Malformations etc.	2	1	-	1	4	-	-	-	-	
Meningitis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Emphysema	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	
Enteritis	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	1	1	2	-	-	

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

Staff.

A complete list of the staff is given at the beginning of this Report.

Laboratory Facilities.

The same facilities detailed in previous Annual Reports continued during the year. The number of examinations carried out by the Medical Officer of Health at the Borough Bacteriological Laboratory is as follows :-

	Total number examined.	Number positive.
Swabs from noses and throats as to presence of Diphtheria Bacilli -	415	8
Sputum - as to presence of Tubercle Bacilli -	68	2
Hairs - as to presence of Ringworm fungus -	1	1
Blood - as to Widal Reaction	2	-
Total	486	11

During the year 65 samples of Graded and Ordinary Milk were submitted for bacteriological examination to the Kent County Council Laboratories, Maidstone, and 12 were reported upon as being unsatisfactory. Eight samples of milk supplied to schools were examined for the presence of Tubercle Bacilli and all reported to be negative.

Ambulance Facilities, Nursing Arrangements.

The two ambulances of the St.John Ambulance Brigade are adequate for all normal requirements of the Borough.

During the early part of the year home nursing was carried out as it has been for many years previously in Ramsgate by District Nurses organised on a parochial basis. In November the entire organisation was taken over by the Queen's Institute of District Nursing.

Clinics, Treatment Centres, Hospitals.

These were as detailed in previous Annual Reports.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

Notification of Births.

During the year 576 births were notified; of these 559 were live births and 17 were stillbirths; 4 were not notified. Of the live births, doctors notified 255, midwives 284, doctors and midwives 20.

Institutional Provision for
Expectant Mothers.

The scheme under which complicated cases, cases with pre-natal abnormalities and cases in which home conditions are unsuitable for confinement, are admitted to the Maternity Ward of the Ramsgate General Hospital on behalf of the Council, continued in force during the year and 18 such cases were admitted.

Maternity and Infant Welfare Centre.

The arrangements detailed in previous years continued.

Ante-Natal Clinics - Monday afternoons at 2.30 p.m.
Infant Consultation and Toddlers' Clinics - Wednesday and Friday afternoons at 2.30 p.m.

The new Health Centre was completed in October 1939 but owing to the outbreak of war this was structurally altered and is now used as a Fixed First Aid Post. The Ramsgate and St. Lawrence Mother Craft Club premises in Princes Street were taken over by the Corporation on 1st October 1939 and the services of Dr. B.H.Palmer as part-time Medical Officer dispensed with. Dr. J.V.Walker acted as Medical Officer since that time.

The number of children and attendances during 1939 are as follows :-

Total number of children who first attended during the year and who on the date of their first attendance were :-		
Under 1 year of age	-	299
1 - 5 years of age	-	28
Total number of children who attended and who at the end of the year were :-		
Under 1 year of age	-	264
1 - 5 years of age	-	472
Total number of attendances by children :-		
Under 1 year of age	-	5255
1 - 5 years of age	-	2820

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Number of expectant mothers who attended	-	151
Total attendances -	-	675

Supply of Milk.

Throughout the year the same arrangements as have been detailed in previous Annual Reports were in force.

The total amount of milk supplied by the Town Council free of cost and by the Ramsgate and St.Lawrence Maternity Association at cost price was as follows :-

By the Town Council -	
Fresh milk	24,848 pints
Dried Milk	1,716 lbs.
By the Association -	
Dried Milk	5,742 lbs.

Work of Health Visitors.

The following summary shows briefly the visits paid by the Health Visitors during the year :-

Number of infants under 1 yr. visited for first time	- 484
" " " visited	- 903
Total visits to infants under 1 yr.	- 2110
Number of children 1 - 5 yrs. visited	- 1674
Total visits to children 1 - 5 yrs.	- 4234
Number of expectant mothers visited	- 104
Total visits to expectant mothers	- 168
Total visits to homes in connection with cases of infectious disease	- 26

Infant Life Protection.

The four Health Visitors act as Infant Life Protection Visitors and during the year they paid 245 visits to such children.

The numbers on the register on 1st January and 31st December 1939 were :-

	Foster mothers.	Children.
On 1st January 1939	15	23
On 31st December 1939	12	22

Dental Treatment.

Ante-Natal patients in need of dental treatment, and also Nursing Mothers and young children, were referred during the year to a dentist, Mr. Stebbings, who gave his services voluntarily. The Maternity Association collects a nominal sum for each tooth extracted by him as reimbursement. The same arrangement was continued after the Mothercraft Club had been taken over by the Town Council. Dentures were necessary were supplied through the Ivory Castle League sponsored by Messrs Gibbs Dentrifice Ltd. and this system proved satisfactory.

Nursing Homes.

Two were on the register at the end of the year, one registered for one maternity patient and the other registered for eight medical patients. Five visits of inspection were made during the year by the Medical Officer of Health. Medical Practitioners were requested to inform this Department of any unregistered home coming to their notice.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Public Water Supply.

There was no change in the supply during the year. The quality of the water was well maintained and samples for bacteriological examination were taken twice monthly, and for chemical analysis once a quarter.

The average daily consumption per head was 38.17 gallons as compared with 39.92 gallons in 1938. The average daily quantity consumed was 1,450,316 gallons.

Drainage and Sewerage.

The sewage of the Borough flows by gravitation in the water carriage system from all parts of the town to the outfall sewer which discharges itself into the sea at a point 1,250 feet from the shore. There were no changes in the system during the year.

Closet Accommodation.

All the houses in the Borough with the exception of 342 in Manston and Cliffsend district are connected to the sewers. Of these 280 are drained to cesspools, 55 have pail closets, 2 have chemical closets and 2 have earth closets and the remaining 3 have privies.

Manston Cottage Homes and St. Lawrence Extra Schools have a combined septic tank system.

In the event of alteration to drainage systems necessitating re-drainage, the fixing of intercepting traps is advocated, and insisted upon in cases where the drains are either carried through, or underneath premises.

Removal and Disposal of Refuse.

10,066 tons 14 cwts 2 qrs were collected and dealt with during the year, an average of 838 tons 17 cwts 3 qrs per month. In addition, 990 loads of road sweepings were collected by lorry and 228 loads of gully mud collected by the motor gully emptier.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

It will be seen from the following Tables that there was no serious epidemic of any particular disease. Twenty one cases of Diphtheria and 34 cases of Scarlet Fever were notified in 1939 as compared with 14 and 51 respectively in 1938.

Measles and Whooping Cough became notifiable during the year and 3 cases of Measles and 12 of Whooping Cough were notified during the period from the commencement of the Regulations until the end of the year.

Fifty five cases of Tuberculosis were notified for the first time during the year as compared with 54 cases in 1938. Twenty-one deaths were attributable to this disease in 1939 as compared with 25 in 1938.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1939.

Disease.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Age incidence. 0-1.	1-2.	2-3.	3-4.	4-5.	5-10.	10-15.	15-20.	20-35.	35-45.	45-65.	Over 65.	Deaths.
Diphtheria	21	21	-	-	1	-	2	7	5	4	2	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	34	34	-	-	1	5	5	10	4	4	4	-	1	-	-
Pneumonia	33	6	1	-	-	1	1	1	2	-	9	8	10	-	12 (all form
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	2	-	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Erysipelas	12	4	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	2	-
Cerebro-spinal Fever	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyrexia	4	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	-	-	-
Acute Anterior Poliomyelitis	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	-	-	-
Malaria	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Paratyphoid	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Encephalitis Lethargica	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Measles	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	12	-	1	1	2	4	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Total	126	71													

TUBERCULOSIS.

Age Periods.	New Cases. Respiratory. M.	New Cases. Respiratory. F.	New Cases. Non-Respiratory. M.	New Cases. Non-Respiratory. F.	Deaths. Respiratory. M.	Deaths. Respiratory. F.	Deaths. Non-Respiratory. M.	Deaths. Non-Respiratory. F.
0 - 1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	2	1	-	1	-	-
5 - 10	-	-	4	3	-	-	-	-
10- 15	-	-	2	1	-	-	-	-
15-20	2	1	-	3	1	1	-	-
20-25	3	2	-	-	2	-	-	-
25-35	4	4	-	-	-	1	1	-
35-45	8	3	1	-	5	2	-	-
45-55	1	5	1	-	2	-	-	-
55-65	1	2	-	-	3	2	-	-
Over 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	19	17	10	9	13	7	1	-

Percentage of non-notified Tuberculosis deaths - 14.3

OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM.

Two cases were notified during the year. Both were treated at home and the vision was unimpaired.

VACCINATION.

The Vaccination Officers for the district have kindly supplied me with the following particulars.

Of 534 children due for vaccination, 34 were removed and 22 died unvaccinated. Particulars of the remaining 478 are as follows :-

Successfully vaccinated	-	192
Vaccination postponed	-	4
Certificates procured by conscientious objectors		278
Insusceptible to vaccination	-	Nil.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin.

Supplies are kept at the Public Health Department and also at the Police Station. During the year 32,000 units were issued and charged for and 84,000 issued free of cost to necessitous cases.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SENIOR SANITARY
INSPECTOR FOR THE YEAR 1939.

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting to you the following report which shows briefly the work carried out by the Sanitary Inspectors and myself during the year 1939.

The necessary supervision of all work carried out under the various notices served, including some left over from the previous year, made considerable demands on our time, and the following particulars show the amount of labour involved in supervising the sanitary conditions of dwellinghouses and other premises in the Borough.

As may be expected the normal routine work of the Sanitary Inspectors was interrupted during the year, in the first part by A.R.P. duties, principally in connection with First Aid Posts and Decontamination, and in the latter part of the year by new duties being imposed upon the staff following the billeting of troops in the Borough.

Although these additional duties made a considerable demand on the time of the Inspectors, no important branch of the statutory requirements was neglected.

In conclusion I should like to thank the Chairman, members of the Public Health Committee and members of the Department for the loyal co-operation they have given me in carrying out the work.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

E. YOUNG,

Senior Sanitary Inspector.

Sanitary Inspectors Office,
Ramsgate.

October, 1940.

Complaints.

Number received and dealt with	-	357

Inspections.

Under Public Health and other Acts, Orders and Regulations	-	9,590
Inspections of houses under Housing Acts	-	634

Notices served etc.

Preliminary notices served or letters written	-	241
Nuisances abated on notice or letter	-	174
Nuisances abated on verbal instructions	-	194

Work done in connection with drainage and housing.

The following defects were remedied and improvements carried out during the year :-

Houses re-drained	21
Houses at which drains were repaired	76
Choked drains cleared	29
Intercepting traps fixed	16
Gully traps fixed	59
Inspection chambers built, new covers provided and rendered	63
Fresh air inlet valves fixed	27
Cesspools emptied	154
Disused cesspools filled in	4
Cesspools repaired	2
Soil and vent pipes fixed or repaired	55
W.C. pans fixed	174
Additional W.C's built	16
Additional urinals fixed	3
Urinals repaired or cleansed	7
New flushing cisterns provided	54
Flushing cisterns repaired	14
New sinks and baths provided	128
Sink wastepipes renewed or trapped	134
Eavesgutters repaired or renewed	37
Rain water pipes disconnected from drain	1
Roofs repaired	60
External walls repointed or repaired	5
External walls cement rendered	2
Walls treated with damp-proofing material	7
Wall plaster and ceilings repaired	43
Floors relaid or repaired	17
Windows repaired	9
Stoves repaired or renewed	15
Coppers repaired or renewed	9
Water supply pipes renewed	44
Rooms fumigated and cleansed for vermin	81
Houses renovated	20
Chimney stacks and flues repaired	6
Ventilated food cupboards fixed	4

Work done (contd).

Yards paved or existing paving repaired	-	33
Miscellaneous repairs	-	66
Accumulations removed	-	7
Urinals removed	-	1
Sanitary bins provided	-	185
Overcrowding abated	-	36
Underground rooms closed	-	1
Miscellaneous	-	11

Inspection of Controlled Premises.

The following Table shows the number of premises etc. and inspections made to such premises during the year :-

	Number.	Inspections made.
Common Lodging Houses	1	9
Houses let in Lodgings	21	80
Slaughterhouses - (Registered)	5)	
- (Licensed)	1)	1340
Fish Fryers	19	73
Marine Store Dealers	4	11
Fat Melters and Bone Boilers	1	2

Bakehouses.

The number of bakehouses in the Borough and on the register at the end of the year was 41 and 106 inspections were made. At the beginning of the year 4 of these were underground and the Council in considering applications for renewal of the exemption certificates for underground bakehouses under the repealed Factories and Workshops Act 1901, resolved that the certificates should cease to have effect after 12 months and that the bakehouses should not be used after that period.

A new bakehouse was built to replace an underground bakehouse and a second was vacated. The occupiers of the remaining 2 made application for the resolution to be suspended until the cessation of hostilities on account of difficulty in obtaining certain building materials. The amended resolution now required that baking should not be carried on in the two underground basements after a period of 6 months after the war

The notices served and verbal instructions given during the year were :-

5 as to limewashing
6 " " lack of artificial light in the W.C's
2 " " dirty floors
2 " " worn and offensive sinks
2 " " defective refuse receptacles.

These defects were in each case remedied.

Shops Act 1934.

The Sanitary Inspectors made 384 visits regarding the requirements of Section 10 as to the arrangements for ventilation, temperature and sanitary and washing facilities etc.

Under the provisions of the Shops Act and Public Health Act 1936, considerable attention was given to the sanitary conveniences of public houses during the year. As a result, two licensed premises have been rebuilt and seven others have had extensive alterations carried out including the provision of additional sanitary accommodation.

The following is a summary of work carried out to shop premises :-

Drains repaired	-	9
New sinks fixed	-	5
New flushing cisterns	-	4
New water service pipes	-	2
W.C.pans cleansed	-	3
Miscellaneous	-	3

Two certificates of exemption in respect of the requirements of Section 10 were granted by the Council during the year.

Camping Sites.

The Council has licensed 5 sites and in addition there are 7 other sites used for periods of 4 to 5 weeks by Boy Scouts, Works and Welfare Organisations. Twenty two visits were paid to the licensed sites during the year and on each occasion were found to be well conducted.

Theatres, Music Halls etc.

The places of public amusement licensed for public music and dancing in the Borough numbered 70 and are as follows :-

Cinemas and Music Halls	-	5
Theatres -	-	2
Halls (religious denominations and others)	-	14
Hotels and Restaurants	-	37
Miscellaneous	-	12

Factories Act 1937.

The following tables show the number of factories, inspections made and notices served and the results of such notices during the year :-

Factories with mechanical power :-

Inspections	-	61
Written notices served	-	12

Factories without mechanical power :-

Inspections	-	91
Written notices served	-	15

The defects discovered were as follows :-

Want of cleanliness	-	7
Sanitary conveniences :-		
Insufficient	-	6
Unsuitable or defective	-	9
Other offences	-	5

All these defects were remedied with the exception of 3 insufficient sanitary accommodation and one defective sanitary convenience.

Homework.

The returns of lists of outworkers as required under Section 110 of the Factories Acts are as follows :-

Nature of work.	Sending twice a year.	Sending once a year.
Making wearing apparel	18	9
Other trades	6	3

The following Table shows the number of factories on the register at the end of the year :-

	Mechanical.	Non-mechanical.
Bakehouses	31	10
Building trades	11	13
Upholsterers	2	3
Plumbers and Tinsmiths	2	5
Watch and clock repairs	2	6
Tailors	-	7
Printers	6	-
Laundries	6	1
Milliners and dressmakers	-	3
Motor engineers	13	7
Boot and shoe repairs	4	1
Timber yards and saw mills	3	-
Miscellaneous	36	17
Total	116	73

Disinfestation of Premises.

Number found to be infested :-

Council houses - 11
Others - 19

Number of premises disinfested :-

Council houses - 11
Others - 19

Disinfestation of premises other than Council houses is carried out by local builders under supervision of this Department. Supervision is also given to bedding, furniture etc. of tenants in houses scheduled for demolition prior to their removal to Council houses and if found verminous, articles are disinfected free of charge by the Corporation.

Disinfection.

The following rooms were disinfected after cases of infectious disease or on the request of tenants :-

Scarlet Fever - 45
Diphtheria - 23
Tuberculosis - 42
Cancer - 7
Other causes - 49

512 sets of bedding, clothing etc. were also removed for disinfection and returned.

HOUSING.

1. Inspection of dwellinghouses during the year :-

(1)(a) Total number of dwellinghouses inspected for housing defects - 509
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose - 1331

(2)(a) Number of dwellinghouses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 and 1932 - - 161

(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose - 363

(3) Number of dwellinghouses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation - 3

(4) Number of dwellinghouses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation - 435

2. Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices :-

Number of defective dwellinghouses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers - 368

3. Action under statutory powers during the year :-

(a) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act 1936 :-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs - 3

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices -

(a) By owners - - 3
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners - Nil.

(b) Proceedings under Public Health Acts :-

(1) Number of dwellinghouses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied - - 174

(2) Number of dwellinghouses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :-

(a) By owners - - Nil
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners - Nil.

OVERCROWDING.

4. Housing Act 1936, Part IV.

(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year - - 17
(2) Number of families dwelling therein - 17
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein - 105

(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year - - 31

(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year - - 57
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases - 410

(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwellinghouses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority have taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding - - Nil.

(e) Houses licensed to exceed Permitted Number during the summer season - 13.

One Clearance Order comprising 3 houses was made and confirmed after a public inquiry.

In the case of 2 of the houses referred to in paragraph 1(3) the Council accepted an undertaking from the owner to carry out extensive alterations and repairs to the property. The work was carried out according to the schedule and subsequently the undertaking was cancelled by the Council. With reference to the third house the Council accepted from the owner an undertaking not to use the premises for human habitation.

In connection with Clearance Orders made the previous year 47 houses were demolished.

Housing Act 1936, Section 62.

Number of houses in which owners have requested "Permitted Numbers" for insertion in rent book	-	472
Number of houses inspected	-	384
Number of rooms measured	-	2006

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk supply.

Milk and Dairies Order 1926.

The number of premises on the register at the end of the year and the number of inspections and notices served during the year is shown in the following table :-

Premises.	Number.	No. of inspections.	Notices served.
Cowsheds	7	61	-
Dairies	27	80	-
Other shops	148	114	-

Milk (Special Designations) Order 1936.

Licences granted by the Kent County Council :-		
To produce Accredited Milk	-	5.
Licences issued by the Borough Council :-		
To distribute Tuberculin Tested Milk bottled outside the Borough	-	6
To Pasteurise milk	-	4
To distribute Pasteurised milk not bottled on the premises	-	1

Results of milk samples taken during 1939.

	Satisfactory.	Unsatis--factory.	Total.
Samples from Public Elementary schools -	21	4	25
Samples from other sources -	32	8	40
Total	53	12	65

Results of Biological tests for Tuberculosis.

	Positive.	Negative.	Total.
Samples from Public Elementary schools -	Nil	8	8
Samples from other sources -	10	27	37
Total	10	35	45

Ice Cream.

Number of vendors selling from barrows, stalls etc - 5
Number of vendors at shops etc. - 15
Number of inspections made - 61

The Sanitary Inspectors devote as much time as possible to supervising the manufacturing establishments and to vendors' stalls and premises. It is gratifying to note that there has been a steady decrease during recent years in the number of persons who manufacture ice cream in their houses and distribute it on barrows in the town.

Ten samples of ice cream were procured for bacteriological examination and the results were as follows :-

Six samples with counts of less than 100,000 per m.l. and coliform bacillus absent in 1/100 m.l. and which may be considered as satisfactory.
One sample with a count of 490,000 per m.l. and coliform bacillus absent in 1/100 m.l.
One sample with a count of 1,620,000 per m.l. and coliform bacillus absent in 1/100 m.l.
One sample with a count of 5,920,000 per m.l. and coliform bacillus absent in 1/100 m.l.
One sample with a count of 20,320,000 per m.l. and coliform bacillus present in 1/1000 m.l.

In the instances of samples with a high bacteria content, the Sanitary Inspectors watched manufacture in progress and suggested alterations, chiefly in connection with sterilisation of utensils etc. with the result that follow-up samples indicated a marked improvement.

Meat and Other Foods.

Considerable time is devoted each week by the Sanitary Inspectors to inspecting as far as possible all carcases killed in the slaughterhouses but supervision is rendered difficult owing to butchers killing at any time they desire provided due notice is given. Through an insurance scheme the butchers are covered against loss when carcases or organs are condemned.

During the year the total weight of food surrendered and destroyed was 10 tons 3 cwts. 1 qr. 23 lbs.